A REVIEW OF THE Affairs of *FRANCE*:

Purg'd from the Errors and Partiality of *News-Writers* and *Petty-Statesmen*, of all Sides.

Tuesday, January 23. 1705.

THE Influence of the *French* on our Trade, cannot be past over here without some Reflections on our Trade Abroad, as well as this at home; at least it will not be Compleat without it.

The latter part of my Discourse, points wholly at the harm we receive in our home Trade, by the mismanagement of our own Part, and the exceeding Vigilance of the Enemy; The same unhappy Influences extend to several Branches of our Forreign Trade, in which, what by extraordinary care to Injure our selves, and the *French* taking exact and punctual Advantage of our Neglect, the Influences of *France* prevail upon our Negoce, in a most unaccountable manner.

We have Talk'd long of the *French* aiming at Universal Monarchy, and we have, with the Divine Assistance, given them lately a blow in their Progress that way. But I see no body observes, or at least concern'd about the Measures they take, and the Designs they have laid at an Universal Trade; and therefore I cannot think it Foreign to the design I am upon, to take up the very few *Reviews* I purpose to Write more, in Examining and laying open the visible growing Greatness of the *French* Trade, as not the least Article, in the Foundadation of the immense Greatness of their Power.

It has been happily observ'd by an unknown Author, at least to me, of a Paper Entitled, *The Observator Reform'd*, whose Notions of Trade I shall not pretend to Mend, that the general Article of Trade in the World, being of the same Magnitude as ever, the encrease of any one Part, must be upon the Diminution of another.

And tho' it may be Subject to this Objection, that Trade in general may be, and really is increas'd, in the World by Discoveries of New Countries, and planting New Colonies; by encreasing New Inventions, finding out more Wealth, and above all, by the encrease of Inhabitants; yet, in the Case in hand, it is a *most Worthy Observation*, and affords us this very useful Influence.

That by how much the Trade, and consequently the Wealth of *France*, is encreas'd for about 150 Years past, by so much the Trade and *Wealth* of *England*, *Holland*, *Spain*, *Flanders*, and the rest of the Trading part of *Europe* is decreas'd.

From this useful hint, it will appear, that the Conquests made by the *French* upon our Trade, tho' they do not make an equal Noise in the World; yet, like a slow Poison, they are equally Fatal to our Prosperity, with the greatest Victories they obtain; and will in Time, if not prevented, as certainly work the Destruction of these Nations, as if it was wrought by immediate force.

And what is ſtill more Unhappy to us, the Miſchief of this Encroachment is not diſcern'd; 'tis a Silent Evil, that creeps upon inſenſibly, like Duſt upon our Cloaths, or Chronical Diſeaſes upon the body, which conſumes as ſurely, tho', not ſo violently, as Fractures and Contuſions on the Members and Feavours in the Blood.

By how much the more ſecret and undiſcover'd this Diſtemper is, by ſo much the greater is the Danger; and the diſcovering the Evil, being the propereſt, and moſt neceſſary Step to a certain Cure, let they that think 'tis no Service to our Country, to Draw this Devil in its Native Colours, and moſt Monſtrous Shape, do their Native Country more Service, before they find fault with me.

I remember when a certain Nobleman, in Great Office in this Government, did me the Honour to force me to hear him Reproach the Memory, *of my Dear and Glorious* Maſter, King *William*, who, tho' a Foreigner, not only purſued, but underſtood the Intereſt of this Kingdom, better than any of her Kings that ever went before him——— His Lordſhip entring upon the Article of the Treaty of Partition, was pleas'd to be very Witty upon His Majeſty in ſaying, That *he purchaſed our Peace with the Ruine of our Trade.*

I ſhall have more time to ſpeak of the Treaty in general on other occaſions, than here; but for the preſent I cannot but ſay this.

That Treaty, the foot of which, I am perſuaded, will ſtill be the Ground-plat of the next Peace, and which *France* muſt have another blow as big as that at *Hochſtette*, before he is brought to accept, had but one Article in it, which could be prejudicial to our Trade, viz. the Poſſeſſion of *Italy*——— And however I might be willing to grant, for Argument ſake, that the putting *Italy* into the hands of the *French*, might be a Check to our *Turky* and *Venetian* Trade, for all the World knows it can affect no other part of our Trade.

However, I ſay, for Arguments ſake, I might grant this, I can never allow, that it could be any way Equivalent to the Injury done our Trade, by the *French* poſſeſſing *Spain*; in which they wound us in two of the moſt ſenſible Parts, and ſtrike at the Foundation and Life of the *Engliſh* Trade, viz. the Export of our Manufactures; and the Import of our Bullion.

And this is not all neither; for by their Encroachment upon the *Spaniards*, and mannaging that Supine People, they have opened the Sluices of their Silver, and made New Channels for it to run in, ſo that the Current lyes directly from *Peru* to *Paris*, and from *Mexico* to *France*.

The *Spaniards* contenting themſelves with ſending a Flota once in three Years, while the *French* Ships, on pretence of ſending Orders, Intelligence, and other frivolous Occaſions, are continually running between *Breſt* and the *Havens*, fill the *Spaniſh* Coloneys with *French* Toys, and ſlight Manufactures, and thereby Supplant the *Engliſh* Trade for the Future, as well as for the Preſent, and come back fraighted with ſolid Bullion, the Sinews of War, and the Soul of Trade.

Thoſe Gentlemen who Clamour ſo much at our exporting Bullion, ſeem to be very much in the dark in this Affair; for tho' I grant that thoſe Trades are moſt Beneficial to *England*, which return their Imports in Exchange for our Manufactures; yet it may be poſſible, that ſuch a Trade, may in its degree, be Profitable to *England*, in which we may be under a Neceſſity of Exchanging Bullion for their Manufactures; and *England* ought to be in a Poſture, always to be able to ſpare a Million or two *per Annum*, for ſuch Neceſſary Trades, without diminiſhing Her Current Coin, and *England* always was in ſuch a Poſture till now; and the only Reaſon why ſhe is not ſo now, is becauſe of the ſtop put to the *Spaniſh* Trade, by the *French*; and in this Caſe I ſhould be glad to be anſwered, Whether the putting *Italy* into the hands of the *French*, as by the Treaty of Partition, was of ſo much Concern to our Trade, as that to prevent it, we ſhould let them take Poſſeſſion of *Spain*, and wholly interrupting our Manufactures, let the *French* have a free Trade to the *Spaniſh Weſt Indies*.

This very thing Vindicates the Honour and Wiſdom of K. *William*, beyond all the Power of Human endeavour to Cavil; and the kindeſt thing I can ſay of thoſe that Object againſt *Italy*; let the *French* take *Spain*, for 'tis plain they might have prevented it, is to ſay, their Ignorance betray'd them, and they did not underſtand what they were doing.

ADVICE

ADVICE from the Scandal. CLUB.

THE Author of this Paper had resolv'd to trouble the Society with no more of his own Vindications, as not worth their Notice; but asks Pardon for this one, and resolves it to be the last, let Cavil and Curiosity say what they please.

Gentlemen,

THE Satisfaction which several of your Answers have given me, has hitherto perswaded me to be attribute what I thought might be justly excepted against in others of them, to Oversight, and the Multiplicity of Business upon your Hands. But finding in your Review No 89. *these Lines,*

——You'll never fail
To cure the Head, if first you cure the Tail,
All Men may then their own Physicians prove,
Remove the Lust, and you remove the Love.

Finding those I say in Answer to one who desir'd your Directions concerning his Love; you have put me to a Stand, to know to what Species of Animals you belong, 'till I may receive your Answer to these Queries,

1. *Whether there's no such thing as an effectionate Love between Man and Woman, without owing its Original to Lust? Or,*

2. *Whether you know particularly this Gentleman's Love does proceed from such a Cause?*

3. *Whether by curing the Tail, you mean to turn Debauchee, and satiate his Libidinous Desires by Enjoyment?* (alias *Whoring*). *If not,*

4. *If you have any Meaning in the Expression, what is it?*

As to the Poetry of your Answer, (*which I think little less debauch'd than your Instructions*) *I shall not meddle with, fearing you'll have enough to do to clear your selves otherwise, which that you may effectually, is the hearty Wish of yours,*

Q. I.

Really Sir, as to the Species of Animals to which I belong, 'tis to those *Plato* meant by *Animal, Bipes sine Plumes*, a thing having Two Feet and no Feathers; in *English*, a speaking Creature, neither Woman, nor Hermophrodite: and then I leave you to guess and go on to your Queries.

To the first I answer readily *yes*, sincere, honourable, chast and immortal; an Emblem of Heaven, and a Help to seek after it.

To the Second, which is mare to the purpose, I answer, the Levity of his Expressions, the Nature of his Description; and the Manner in his Letter seem'd to imply, that his Love was a Fire in the Flesh; and I appeal to his Letter in *Review* N° 89. to justifie me from the Charge of Want of Charity ——'and from this very Case take the Liberty to desire, if the Gentlemen think this Paper able to instruct them, they would please when they expect a serious Answer to express themselves so.

To the Third I Answer, No, Sir, nor could any Thing but so weak an Accuser suggest it, which seems to Reflect on your Morals, Sir; ——But if you want to know what I mean, by Curing the Tail; I mean, that a Man ought to give his Reason the Superiority over his Inclinations, and let his Head govern his Tail; if you would have me Explain my self, I desire your Notice.

Your Fourth Objection is Answer'd in the Third, and in my opinion, Sir, the Poetry it self Answered you, however mean you think it, *Remove the Lust, and you remove the Love*; would any body but you Sir, have ask'd if I meant by removing Lust, Satiating it with Vice!

THE following Letter being very suitable to the present Occasion, of an intended Notice in this Place, the Society thought it proper to place it here.

Sir,

SUppoſing, by the Care you have taken, to have the Numbers of your Reviews, *which were wanting, compleated, for the Benefit of those Gentlemen, who shall bind up this your Excellent Labour; That you design it shall be divided into ſeparate Tomes; otherwiſe, if the Proſecution be continued any conſiderable while longer, they will, with the Monthly* Supplement, *that you have promiſed us, be too bulky for one Binding. I requeſt of you, Sir, to inform me in your next, how many Numbers you propoſe the firſt Volume ſhall contain; which will oblige,*

Sir,

Your moſt humble Servant,

Philo-Review.

The Answer to this, serves instead of an Advertisement to the Gentlemen concern'd, That this first, *and perhaps the last* Volume of these *Reviews*, will end the 17th of the next Month, at N° 100, and that the next *Supplement* will be the last of the said Volume;

This

The Society, however, gives Notice, That there shall be an *Appendix* of some Material Questions, at the end of the Volume; in which they purpose to answer that ensnaring Question sent them some time since, and Solicited for since, with an equal Design of Mischief, *viz.* What is the Meaning of *Taking* and *Consolidating*, and whether the Terms are Sence joyn'd together.

THE Gentleman who sent a Letter, sign'd *T. H.* with a long Story of an unjust Justice of Peace, is desired to call at Mr. *Matthews*'s, where an Answer will be left for him.

MRS. *Mary Fox*, who sent a Printed Case of the Barbarous Murther of her Husband, is desired to send to Mr. *Matthews*'s, where a Letter is left for her.

MR. *M. R.* who sent a Letter, about his Master forcing him to the Meeting-House; is desired to look over the Second *Supplement*, where he will find either his own Case, or just such another, exactly Answer'd.

THE Author of this Paper having been very Sick, and out of Town, when the two last *Reviews*, and the *Supplement* also was finish'd, several Errors of the Press pass'd uncorrected, which the Printer begs the Reader's Pardon for, and desires may be observ'd, as by the following Particulars.

Review, N° 92. Pag. 383. Col. 1. Lin. 9. for *as the*, read *as this is the*; ib. c. 2. the 7th line of the Verses, for *in Glass*, read *in a Glass*.

In the *Supplement*, P. 24. c. 2. l. 3. last, for *no Answers*, read *no better Answers*; for *is likely*, read *it is likely*; P. 26. C. 1. between lines 12 and 13, add these words, *the Elixir or Marrow but*; ib. l. 19. for *Paper Holland*, read *Paper in Holland*; ib. c. 2. l. 33. for *pretented*, read *pretended*. If any other have happen'd to escape us, the Candid Reader is desired to correct and excuse.

IN *Woodstreet* near the *Compter*, is an Office very well fitted up for an *Attorney* or *Scrivener*, to be Lett; Inquire of *Humphrey Dell*, *Jeweller*, in *Woodstreet*, near *Cheapside*.

ADvertisements are taken in by *J. Matthews* in *Pilkington-Court* in *Little-Britain*.

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Just publish'd,

THE *Third Monthly Supplement* to the Operations of the Society; in which most of the Gentlemen, who may think themselves neglected by the long delay of Answers to their Letters, will, we hope, receive Satisfaction, and the next *Supplement* shall not be delay'd so long.

AT the *White Swan* upon *Snow Hill*, over-against the *Green Dragon* Tavern, are made and sold the Newest fashion Flower-Pots for Gardens; Urns, Eagles, and Pine-Apples, to stand upon Posts of Large Gates; also large or small Figures, all made of hard Mettal, much more durable than Stone, and cheaper; also Candle Moulds, fit to make Wax or Tallow Candles, from 1 in the Pound, to 20: There is also made Artificial Fountains, that Play Water from 1, 2, or 3 Foot, to 20 or 30 Foot high, 1, 2, 3, or 6 Hours together, without Repeating with the same Water; which Fountains or Engines may be made use of to extinguish Fire 40 or 50 Foot high, with a continued Stream larger, than the Common Fire-Engines.

Tentamen Medicinale; or, An Enquiry into the Differences between the Dispensarians and Apothecaries; wherein Dr. *Pitt*'s Book of the Crafts and Frauds of Physick exposed, and his Antidote are Animadverted upon. The Apothecaries prov'd capable of a Skillful Composition of Medicines, and a Rational Practice of Physick; to which are added, some Proposals to prevent their future in crease. By an *Apothecary*. price 2 *s.* Printed for *Geo. Sawbridge* in *Little Britain*, nd sold by *J. Nutt* near *Stationers-Hall*.